

MEETING RECORD

NAME OF GROUP: Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING: Thursday, March 24, 2005, 8:00 a.m., Room 206, County-City Building, 555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Members: Jim Hewitt, V.J. Nelson and Jeff Searcy present. **Karen Kilgarin, Thomas Laging, Patrick O'Donnell and Kim Todd absent.**

Others: Bob Ripley (Capitol Administration); Alan Makovicka (Whitehead Oil Company); Michael Isaacson (Nebraska Neon Sign Company); Larry Schwartz (Nebraska Department of Labor); Ed Zimmer and Michele Abendroth (Planning Dept.)

STATED PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: Regular Meeting of the Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission

Chair Jeff Searcy called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

Approval of meeting notes of February 24, 2005

Due to the lack of a quorum, the meeting notes of February 24, 2005 were not voted upon.

Application by U-Stop for a Certificate of Appropriateness for a sign at 610 South 10th Street (10th Street at Lincoln Mall) in the Capitol Environs District.

Michael Isaacson of Nebraska Neon Sign Company stated that their intent is to put an illuminated double-faced ground sign at the U-Stop at 610 South 10th Street. It will be on top of a brick or stone base, probably a brick base. It has been approved by the City for the sign permitting.

Zimmer raised for discussion the issue of the sign visibility along Lincoln Mall. Nelson suggested possibly not illuminating the north side of sign, but the south side could be illuminated, as she feels it would be more attractive for the Mall. Ripley and Hewitt agreed.

Application by the Nebraska Department of Labor for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at 500-550 South 16th Street on Capitol Square in the Capitol Environs District.

Larry Schwartz stated that the Commissioner of Labor wants to plant a tree in honor of Arbor Day on the south corner of the Labor building at 16th and J Streets. Ripley stated that there is a ramp to the lower level and asked how far out from the ramp retaining wall the tree would be. Larry stated it would be placed approximately 12-15 feet from the ramp.

In terms of a species of tree, Schwartz stated that they are considering an oak tree. Ripley stated that he does not feel it is a question of the tree competing with the vista; rather, it is a matter of getting the right species of tree. Nelson suggested an American linden tree. Johnson agreed that an American linden or a red sunset maple would be a good choice.

Miscellaneous

Johnson stated that Liz Shea McCoy would like to do another public art project perhaps on Centennial Mall. Her intent is to involve the entire state. A funding strategy needs to be developed. Searcy commented that the project would need to fit in with the Downtown Master Plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 a.m.

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